

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 EB-11 DOTE-00 COME-00 AF-10

ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-11 RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 SAM-01 L-03

OMB-01 TAR-02 AGR-20 LAB-06 OIC-04 SIL-01 STR-08

TRSE-00 CIEP-02 CEA-02 SS-20 H-03 NSC-10 SAJ-01 INT-08

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SUBJ: ECE - INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE -
JANUARY 30, 1974

1. ITEM 12. USDEL OPENED DEBATE WITH DETAILED STATEMENT OF US CONCERN OVER TENDENCY, REFLECTED IN ANNEX 1 AND 3 OF TRANS/389, TO ADOPT REGIONALLY OR MODALLY ORIENTED SYSTEMS, AND URGED THAT EFFORT BE REDIRECTED TO UN LEVEL IN ORDER GET WORLD-WIDE AND MULTIMODAL COMPATIBILITY. CANADIAN DEL FOLLOWED WITH USEFUL SUPPORTING STATEMENT, DESCRIBING CANADIAN EVALUATION OF HI SYSTEMS ON BEHALF OF ECOSOC (REPORT TO BE AVAILABLE FOR LATE FEBRUARY MEETING) AND EMPHASIZING THAT PROLIFERATION DIFFERENT SYSTEMS THREATENS BECOME INCREASINGLY COSTLY COMPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE. IMCO AND OCTI SUPPORTED US ALSO. FOLLOW-ON DISCUSSION QUICKLY MADE CLEAR THAT EUROPEANS NOT UNCLASSIFIED

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PREPARED FOREGO ADR AMENDMENT TO ANNEXES 1 AND 3 AS

INTERIM DEVICE FOR HARMONIZATION IN EUROPEAN REGION ITSELF. HOWEVER, SEVERAL SPEAKERS (INCLUDING CHAIRMAN ITC GROUP OF EXPERTS) ACKNOWLEDGED ANNEX 3 IMPERFECT AND MOST DELEGATIONS EMPHASIZED THAT BROADER HARMONIZATION IMPERATIVE. EXPLICIT ASSURANCE DIRECTED TO US AND CANADA THAT EFFORT TO ALIGN WITH UN WILL GO FORWARD.

2. ITEM 9. DISCUSSION THIS ITEM FOCUSED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ON INTERNATIONAL INTERMODAL CONVENTION (AND TO LESSER DEGREE CONTAINER STANDARDS CONFERENCE) BEING PREPARED IN UNCTAD PURSUANT RESOLUTIONS WORLD CONTAINER CONFERENCE AND ECOSOC. MAJOR EUROPEAN PARTICIPANTS WERE NETHERLANDS, FRG, FRANCE AND USSR. GENERAL OUTCOME WAS THAT ITC/GRCT SHOULD FOLLOW INTERMODAL CONVENTION AS MATTER TOP PRIORITY, CONTINUE SERVE AS ECE CHANNEL TO UNCTAD ON THIS PROBLEM, AND FOR IMMEDIATE FUTURE SHOULD PROVIDE FORUM FOR COORDINATION OF RESPONSES TO UNCTAD QUESTIONNAIRE. (NOT YET CLEAR HOW LATTER ACTIVITY CAN BE FORMALLY ORGANIZED IN TIME MEET UNCTAD DEADLINE, ALTHOUGH POSTPONEMENT NEXT UNCTAD PREP GROUP MEETING PRESENTS SOME FLEXIBILITY.) FRENCH DEL STRESSED THAT IN ITS VIEW GOOD FAITH APPROACH AND EFFICIENT WORK WITH LDC'S IN THIS PROBLEM IMPORTANT TO GENERAL ECE INTERESTS.

3. ITEM 7. APART FROM STEADY REITERATION OF HIGH ITC REGARD OF CHAIRMAN VICTOR (HUNGARY) OF THE WORKING PARTY, PRIMARY ATTENTION WAS ADDRESSED TO FINNISH RESOLUTION IN ANNEX 5 OF TRANS/SC-1/272, RECOMMENDING IN VIEW OF FUEL SHORTAGES THAT ECE GOVERNMENTS ASSURE AVAILABILITY OF FUEL TO INTERNATIONAL ROAD GOODS TRANSPORT ON SAME BASIS AS TO DOMESTIC USERS. DESPITE SUPPORT FOR RESOLUTION BY EARLY SPEAKERS (MAINLY USSR AND EASTERN EUROPE), COMPLICATIONS DEVELOPED: AMENDMENT TO COVER PASSENGER TRANSPORT AND LATER ALL INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT; QUESTION WHETHER GUIDANCE ON FUEL ALLOCATION WITHIN COMPETENCE OF ITC; NUMEROUS CASES IN WHICH DELEGATES REPORTED THEIR MINISTRIES NOT COMPETENT WITHIN THEIR GOVERNMENTS FOR THIS MATTER AND DOCUMENTS ARRIVED TOO LATE FOR ADEQUATE STUDY AND INTERAGENCY COORDINATION. FRANCE TOOK POSITION RESOLUTION IRRELEVANT BECAUSE NO UNCLASSIFIED

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ENERGY SHORTAGE EXISTS. RESOLUTION ULTIMATELY ABANDONED IN FAVOR NOTATION IN RECORD OF GRATITUDE TO FINLAND FOR BRINGING MATTER TO ITC ATTENTION.

4. ITEM 8. ROUTINE DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF TRANS/SC/-3/81.

5. ITEM 11. DISCUSSION RESULTED IN EXPRESSION CONTINUED INTENT OF ITC THAT ALL SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND ECE TRANSPORT

DIVISION KEEP CLOSE CONTACT WITH WORKING PARTY ON
FACILITATION INTERNATIONAL TRADE PROCEDURES, IN VIEW
DIRECT BEARING OF THAT WORK ON INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT
SYSTEMS.

6. ITEM 13. GENERAL SENSE OF ITC WAS THAT ATP SHOULD
BE SATISFIED WITH ALL POSSIBLE SPEED. MEANWHILE GROUP
OF EXPERTS ON TRANSPORT PERISHABLE FOODSTUFFS AUTHORIZED
MEET LATER IN 1974 TO CONSOLIDATE RESOLUTIONS AND TO
CONDUCT PRELIMINARY EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON POTENTIAL
AMENDMENTS TO ATP. ON LATTER POINT USDEL, ONCE SENSE OF
MEETING WAS CLEAR, EXTENDED SUPPORT AND INDICATION CONTINUED
US INTEREST IN ATP.BASSIN

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